

## Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups

August 1, 2003

Ms. Marlene Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW – Room CY-B402 Washington, DC 20554

RE: Application of SBC – Pursuant to Section 271 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for Authorization to Provide In-Region, InterLATA Services in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Wisconsin WC Docket No. 03-167

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups (CWAG) supports the application of SBC to enter the long-distance telephone market in Wisconsin. We believe that it would be good for older persons to have the option of choosing SBC as a long-distance provider as well as for local service.

We believe that many older people would at least like the option of choosing one provider for both long distance and local service and the simplicity of one bill for all telephone services. Also, we hope that the additional competition will result in lower prices for telephone service.

While we had some reservations about deregulation of telecommunications, we did support it conditioned on basic telephone service being available to lower income persons and families. Since we have a competitive environment, it makes no sense to us to prevent SBC from competing in the long-distance arena. Let's have real competition and real options for consumers.

I hope that the Federal Communications Commission will support SBC's 271 long distance application.

Sincerely,

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Thomas L. Frazier Executive Director